

IN FIERY FLAME

THE WESTERN UNION BUILDING IN NEW YORK DESTROYED.

NARROW ESCAPE OF SEVEN EMPLOYEES

Lowered From the Roof by Two Brave Firemen.

LADDERS TOO SHORT TO REACH THE TOP

And the Fire Ladders Climbed a Rope to Accomplish the Rescue--The Structure Collapsed--A Big Loss.

New York, July 18.--The Western Union Telegraph building caught fire at 7 o'clock this morning. The battery room on the sixth floor, the operating room on the floor above, and the restaurant on the ninth floor were completely destroyed and seven lives were miraculously saved.

A few minutes before 7 o'clock this morning the operators began to arrive to go to work. About fifty men and young women had reached the operating room. A messenger boy named Matthews first saw a puff of smoke under a table in the checking department on the floor below the operating room. He had scarcely time to investigate the cause when a wooden table was in flames and the fire was spreading.

WITH LIGHTNING-LIKE RAPIDITY. He rushed up stairs to notify the new arrivals that the building was on fire. They were compelled to go through the checking department to go down stairs. A panic was the result of the messengers' warning. The young women screamed and the men rushed pell mell down stairs to escape the pursuing flames, which, in less than two minutes, had spread throughout the entire checking department, burning up wires, instruments and tables as if they were so much tinder.

The entire room, when the panic-stricken crowd passed through it, was filled with a dense stifling smoke. They fell over each other in the wild efforts to reach a place of safety. The little messenger, with an operator named Skidmore, were the only two persons who retained presence of mind enough to take in.

THE AWFUL SITUATION. The boy rushed down stairs and out of the building and sent out an alarm, while Skidmore got down a fire-extinguisher and endeavored to quench the flames. This he saw was impossible, and he had to flee in a very few minutes. The flames ate through from floor to floor in short order.

Just about this time it flashed upon the minds of the frightened persons who had escaped that there were seven others on the roof who had not been warned of their danger. All eyes had by this time been cut off, but their instinctive people.

succeeded in reaching the roof through the trap-door. Under the eaves of the big building the flames were shooting, and the eddies seemed to be crowned with fire. When the great crowds of people on the streets saw the men and women rush out on the roof.

A CRY OF HORROR went up, for it seemed impossible that they could escape the fire burning between them and the street. Screaming women on the roof wrung their hands and the men cried: "For God's sake do something to save us."

The first engine had arrived before the terrifying scenes transpiring on the roof were visible to the crowd gazing upward from Broadway. Soon a volume of water was pouring into the burning building, and the sounds of cracking and breaking timbers were added to the confusion of the scene.

In a few minutes there were fourteen engines and hook-and-ladder companies and a water tower on the ground. Water poured in through the flaming windows and beat down upon the roof. But

THE FLAMES WERE STUBBORN. In spite of the tons of water poured upon them. Still no effort had been made to save the terrified men and women on the roof, who could be seen like specters enveloped in smoke and mist.

A long ladder was rushed up on the roof from the street and placed against the rear of the burning building. It did not reach within ten feet of the roof of the big telegraph building. Undaunted, however, two firemen scaled the ladder. Leaving it at the top, they threw a rope to the roof. It was caught and held by one of

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is no insurance. William Henry Smith is personally heavily loser by the destruction of rare books and papers, many of which cannot be replaced.

The Associated Press is at the Pennsylvania depot, Jersey City. After tomorrow it will be at 415 Broadway. The United Press has courteously tendered its facilities during the break.

THE McDOWELL BRIBERY CASE.

Quay Said in Favor of Smoothing Over the Scandal.

BEAVER, Pa., July 18.--The members of the Republican county committee, which will meet tomorrow to take action on the Twenty-fifth district bribery scandal, are met on every side with requests for proxies from politicians who want to take a hand in the case. Senator Quay is expected here tomorrow, and it is believed that he favors the smoothing over of the scandal and the ratification of McDowell's nomination.

He would like to force McDowell out of the ticket, but is fearful of the effect of such action on the State ticket in Mercer county. He is also averse to having the case start a new scandal, and he knows this exposure would come if there was a general investigation.

The warrants for the arrest of the Congressional leaders were not yet been served. Attorney Wallace, who handled the money, says if he arrested he will make it so hot for some people that they will wish they had never been born.

MUST STILL SUFFER.

THE MT. PLEASANT COMMITTEE FAIL TO GET BETTER CAR SERVICE.

President Hurt Says It Will Be Impossible to Do Anything at Present, a Cable Line Contemplated.

The committee of Mount Pleasant citizens recently appointed to confer with the officials of the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company, met President Hurt yesterday afternoon at his office in Georgetown.

Mr. Hurt opened the discussion by saying that the committee had come for a friendly conversation with the company on the subject of better railroad facilities for Mount Pleasant.

"We want," said he, "the abolition of the three-cent fare and more frequent communication with the city. Why can you not run every second or third car of the Fourteenth street line clear through to Mount Pleasant, and mark the cars so that they will be known?"

Mr. Hurt thought of the legal aspect of the situation. The permit held by the company for the occupation of W street was given by engineers who had not the right to grant it. The Committee had refused to grant it, and the company occupied the street on the sufferance of the citizens who have as yet offered no protest against it. The people have never complained, but we think that the Mount Pleasant citizens have never received a due share of the street car accommodations afforded to the rest of the city, although it may not be profitable to the company to give better.

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THOS. J. MORGAN

HIS INFLUENCE USED AGAINST CATHOLIC INDIAN SCHOOLS.

HOW HE RAISED A RELIGIOUS BUGBEAR

To Secure Confirmation and Make Himself Solid.

A CAUSTIC REVIEW OF HIS RECORD.

He Opposes Appropriations for Catholic Indian Schools and Secretly Furnishes Official Information to Anti-Catholic Committees.

When Thomas J. Morgan was appointed Indian Commissioner about a year ago, some very serious charges were made against him, and his confirmation was hung up for a long time in the Senate. Among these charges were the attacks made on his military career by certain Republican correspondents and papers, notably those of General Boynton in the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette. Mr. Morgan had a hard fight before the Senate to get confirmed, and a gentleman prominently connected with the effort that was made to defeat his confirmation this morning talked interestingly of the course pursued by the Commissioners at that time and since.

After detailing the charges against Morgan's military record, with which the public is familiar, the gentleman said:

"Instead of joining issue with General Boynton and his other Republican accusers, Morgan at once set up the howl that

THE ROMANISTS WERE AFTER HIM. To get the Catholics started, and thus give color to this charge, he dismissed every Catholic employee in the Government Indian School service in the Indian Territory, not even sparing the one-armed veteran Republican soldier superintendent at Kaw. These whole sale dismissals of Catholics and Morgan's repeated interviews in the papers with opposing his policy and his efforts to extend the public school system to the Indian service, had the effect of drawing the fire from some of the Catholic papers, and, having succeeded in doing this, his case was won. He would take the articles of the Boys O'Reillys, the Fords and other Catholic editors, who in strong language were denouncing his policy, and he would point out to the Catholics that the school was the Pope's interference in American school matters.

"He succeeded in diverting attention from his own record and this is precisely what he intended to do. He would suppose that so intelligent a body as the United States Senate could not be deceived by tricks so transparent. Mr. Morgan's record would not be profitable, the company now run two cars to Mount Pleasant and the average travel was scarcely a third of their capacity.

Mr. Morgan read a paper, signed by the committee, setting forth the grievances of the citizens and their demands for better accommodations. The preamble stated that the company were illegally occupying the street on the sufferance of the citizens who have as yet offered no protest against it. The people have never complained, but we think that the Mount Pleasant citizens have never received a due share of the street car accommodations afforded to the rest of the city, although it may not be profitable to the company to give better.

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CHARGES MADE

AGAINST LIEUTENANT GUY BY THE COMMISSIONERS.

THE OUTCOME OF ROBERT'S PROWLING.

The Accused Protected Gambling-Houses and Pool-Rooms.